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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/799,371

03/12/2004

Bernard Kasser

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06/16/2008

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EXAMINER

BAYOU, YONAS A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2134

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/16/2008

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

creganoa@addmg.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/799,371	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KASSER, BERNARD	
	<b>Examiner</b> YONAS BAYOU	<b>Art Unit</b> 2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-28 and 30-34 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 17, 18, 20, 25, 26 and 30-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 3, 5, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21-24, 27, 28, 33 and 34 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03/12/2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-28 and 30-34 are pending.
2. Claims 29 are cancelled.
3. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 03/05/2008, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

A Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) has approved of reopening prosecution by signing below:

/Kambiz Zand/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2134.

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 9, 17, and 25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2, 4, 7, 9-10, 12, 14, 17-18, 20, 25-26 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheah et al., Patent No.: US 7,076,432 B1 in view of Chatani et al., Pub. No. US 2002/0104019 A1.

Referring to claims 1, 9, 17, 25 and 26, Cheah teaches a method which is inherently a method for securing circulation of an encrypted digital document to be reproduced with a document reader, the method comprising:

providing a user with a storage device (smart card) storing identification information identifying the storage device and for storing an identification information list

comprising identification information identifying recent document readers previously operated the storage device **[abstract, 4:40-59, 6:34-55 and figs. 2A-4]**.

determining possible fraudulent use of the storage device based upon the information list that is transmitted to the server, the server comparing the identification information in the information list with an authorized or fraudulent document reader list for determining fraudulent use of the storage device **[abstract, 1:51-63]**;

if the storage device is not being fraudulently used, then transmitting over the digital data transmission network from the server to the computer terminal a decryption key specific to the digital document to be reproduced, with the decryption key being stored in the storage device **[abstract, 1:33-39, 6:34-55]**;

decrypting the digital document using the stored decryption key by the document reader connected to the storage device **[abstract, 1:64 – 2:57]**; and

reproducing the digital document decrypted by the document reader **[abstract, 1:64 – 2:57]**. Cheah does not appear to explicitly teach transmitting to a server over a digital data transmission network from the storage device to the server upon connection of the storage device to the server by a terminal connected to the digital data transmission network and to the storage device;

identifying from the server the storage device on the basis of the information identification of the storage device transmitted to the server. However Chatani teaches server and client computer systems transmit and receive data over a computer network or standard telephone line. The steps of accessing, downloading, and manipulating the data, as well as other aspects of the present invention are implemented by central

processing units (CPU) in the server and client computers executing sequences of instructions stored in a memory **[para. 16, lines 4-9]**. The instructions may be loaded into the memory of the server or client computers from a storage device or from one or more other computer systems over a network connection. For example, a client computer may transmit a sequence of instructions to the server computer in response to a message transmitted to the client over a network by the server **[para. 2, lines 1-7]**. The software product distribution scheme utilizes an aspect in which the good that is purchased by the user is not necessarily the product media itself, but rather a key that can be used to unlock the program stored on the media. Identification information transmitted by the user is used by the server to generate the unlock key used by the user **[para. 58, lines 1-7 and fig. 1]**. Cheah and Chatani are analogous art because both teach securing distribution of encoded digital data/digital documents.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method of Cheah to include server and client computer systems transmit and receive data over a computer network of Chatani because Identification information transmitted by the user is used by the server to generate the unlock key used by the user [para. 58, lines 1-7 and fig. 1], please see KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc., 550 U.S., 82 USPQ2d 1385 (2007) for further interpretation.

Referring to claims 2, 10 and 18, Cheah teaches the method for secure distribution of digital document, wherein the decryption key is transmitted from the

storage device to the document reader only if the document reader is authorized

**[abstract, 1:64 – 2:9].**

Referring to claims 4, 12, 20 and 30, Cheah teaches the method for secure distribution of digital document, wherein the information list also identifies unauthorized document readers; and wherein fraudulent use of the storage device is also determined if the identification information associated with the document reader is on the information list **[abstract, 4:17-23 and fig. 1].**

Referring to claim 7, Cheah as modified teaches the method for secure distribution of digital document, wherein if the storage device is being fraudulently used, then the server deactivates the storage device over the digital data transmission network for prohibiting any further use of the storage device for reproducing a digital document **[Chatani; page 7, paragraph 0058, lines 21-30; if the storage device is not fraudulent/authorized, inherently the identification information stored in the storage device has to be associated with the document reader so that it can be played/reproduced].**

Referring to claims 14 and 32, Cheah as modified teaches the method for secure distribution of digital document, wherein if the storage device is being fraudulently used, then the decryption key is not transmitted over the digital data transmission network from the server to the storage device **[Chatani; page 8, paragraph 0063; inherently**

transmit the unlock key/decryption key from the server to the user if the user is authorized over a transmission network].

Referring to claim 31, Chatani teaches the method for secure distribution of digital document, wherein the server builds from the identification information of the storage device and from the information list received from the storage device a table containing, for each identified document reader, a number of different storage devices used with the document reader; and further comprising:

determining that a particular document reader is unauthorized if the corresponding number of different storage devices used with this particular document reader exceeds a threshold **[abstract, 5:1-20]**; and

inserting the identification information of the document reader determined to be unauthorized into an unauthorized document reader list **[abstract, 5:1-35 and figs. 3-4]**.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 3, 5-6, 8, 11, 13, 15-16, 19, 21-24, 27-28 and 33-34 are objected to as allowable subject matter if incorporated into independent claims including all intervening claims.

Independent claims 1 and 9 have conditional statement “if”, and both conditions have to be present in the claim in order for applicant arguments to be persuasive.



For that reason examiner has pointed out to the claims 3, 5-6, 8, 11, 13, 15-16, 19, 21-24, 27-28 and 33-34 (see above).

Having only one conditional limitation in the claim would result no patentable weight to such conditional limitation since such condition may not be realized in a "if" statement.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YONAS BAYOU whose telephone number is (571)272-7610. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f,7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Zand can be reached on 571-272-3811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2134

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Yonas Bayou/

Examiner, Art Unit 2134

06/05/2008

/Kambiz Zand/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2134

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